

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

1 1. (currently amended) A method of making a fiber
2 laminate, the method comprising the steps of:

3 (a) forming a nonwoven spunbond filament layer;

4 (b) prebonding said nonwoven spunbond filament layer to a
5 tensile strength of at least 50% of the tensile strength thereof at
6 maximum bonding as defined in DIN 53815 to form a prebonded
7 nonwoven spunbond filament layer;

8 (c) applying at least one layer of hydrophilic fibers
9 onto said prebonded nonwoven spunbond filament layer; and

10 (d) hydrodynamically bonding the layer of hydrophilic
11 fibers to the spunbond filament layer to create a two-layer [[a]]
12 ~~laminate formed by said fibers together to forming~~ an absorbent
13 cloth.

1 2. (original) The method defined in claim 1 wherein the
2 nonwoven spunbond filament layer is prebonded in step (b) in a
3 calender.

1 3. (original) The method defined in claim 2 wherein the
2 nonwoven spunbond filament layer is prebonded in step (b) in a
3 calender having at least one heated embossing drum cylinder.

1 4. (original) The method defined in claim 3 wherein the
2 prebonding is carried out in step (b) such that a maximum free

3 filament length between two bonding points of the nonwoven spunbond
4 layer is less than 15 mm.

1 5. (original) The method defined in claim 4, further
2 comprising the step of additionally deforming said prebonded
3 nonwoven spunbond filament layer to increase the thickness thereof.

1 6. (original) The method defined in claim 5, further
2 comprising the step of treating said prebonded nonwoven spunbond
3 filament layer with at least one wetting agent prior to application
4 of said fibers thereto.

1 7. (original) The method defined in claim 6 wherein
2 said wetting agent is at least one tenside or surface active agent.

1 8. (original) The method defined in claim 7 wherein the
2 hydrophilic fibers are applied by at least one carding machine or
3 at least one air-layering device onto the prebonded nonwoven
4 spunbond filament layer.

1 9. (original) The method defined in claim 8, further
2 comprising the step of applying a second spunbond nonwoven material
3 onto said laminate formed by said layers.

1 10. (original) The method defined in claim 9 wherein
2 the hydrodynamic bonding of said layers into said laminate is
3 effected by a water-jet treatment thereof.

1 11. (original) The method defined in claim 1 wherein
2 the prebonding is carried out in step (b) such that a maximum free
3 filament length between two bonding points of the nonwoven spunbond
4 layer is less than 15 mm.

1 12. (original) The method defined in claim 1, further
2 comprising the step of additionally deforming said prebonded
3 nonwoven spunbond filament layer to increase the thickness thereof.

1 13. (original) The method defined in claim 1, further
2 comprising the step of treating said prebonded nonwoven spunbond
3 filament layer with at least one wetting agent prior to application
4 of said fibers thereto.

1 14. (original) The method defined in claim 13 wherein
2 said wetting agent is at least one tenside or surface active agent.

1 15. (original) The method defined in claim 1 wherein
2 the hydrophilic fibers are applied by at least one carding machine
3 or at least one air-layering device onto the prebonded nonwoven
4 spunbond filament layer.

1 16. (original) The method defined in claim 1, further
2 comprising the step of applying a second spunbond nonwoven material
3 onto said laminate formed by said layers.

1 17. (original) The method defined in claim 1 wherein
2 the hydrodynamic bonding of said layers into said laminate is
3 effected by a water-jet treatment thereof.